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(R13)

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P 170831Z MAY 94
FM AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3645

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E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: MARCH/APRIL MSR

REF: BUJUMBURA 0939 (PREVIOUS MSR)

THE MONTH OF MARCH IN BUJUMBURA DID NOT PASS WITHOUT INCIDENT. ETHNIC DISTURBANCES FLARED UP IN NYAKABIGA WHERE MANY HOMES BELONGING TO THE HUTU ETHNIC GROUP WERE BURNED, SOME IN BROAD DAYLIGHT. THE QUARTIERS OF MUSAGA AND CIBITOKI ALSO EXPERIENCED ETHNIC CLASHES. THERE WERE ALSO PROBLEMS IN KAMENGE AND KANYOSHA DURING THE MONTH. THIS CONFLICT HAS PRODUCED SEVERAL "ETHNICALLY PURE" NEIGHBORHOODS IN BUJUMBURA. EVEN THE DEAD ARE NOT EXEMPT AS THE TUSI COMMUNITY HAS RECENTLY BEGUN INTERRING THEIR PEOPLE IN A NEW CEMETERY NORTH OF THE

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CITY.

3/7, RSO ACCOMPANIED CHARGE TO KAMENGE AND OBSERVED AT LEAST THIRTY BODIES THAT HAD BEEN BROUGHT OUT TO THE ROAD BY LOCAL INHABITANTS FOR JOURNALISTS AND THE DIP CORPS TO SEE. ALMOST FIFTY PERCENT OF THE VICTIMS WERE WOMEN AND CHILDREN; SOME WERE INFANTS LESS THAN A YEAR OLD.

3/9, BETWEEN 2230 AND 2330 HRS, GUNFIRE WAS REPORTED IN KAMENGE QUARTIER IN AN AREA ADJACENT TO NGAGARA QUARTIER,

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WHICH IS PREDOMINANTLY TUTSI. NO INFORMATION REGARDING CASUALTIES.

3/13, TWO OFF DUTY SOLDIERS FROM CAMP MUZINDA, NORTH OF BUJUMBURA, WERE KILLED BY LOCAL CITIZENS NEAR THE LOCAL MARKET.

3/20, COMMANDANT NINGANZA, A GENDARME CONTACT, TOLD RSO THAT 13 RPG-7 ROCKETS HAD BEEN SEIZED IN THE KAMENGE SECTION OF BUJUMBURA. HE ALSO REPORTED THAT "SNIPERS" HAD SHOT AT MILITARY POSITIONS IN KAMENGE AND KINAMA QUARTIERS.

3/20, RSO WAS PHONED FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF BURUNDI CAMPUS BY AN AMCIT CONTRACTOR WHO REPORTED HEARING 3 GUNSHOTS BETWEEN 1000 AND 1030 HRS. HE THOUGHT THAT IT WAS PROBABLY A TRUCK BACKFIRING. WHEN THE CONTRACTOR LEFT THE UNIVERSITY AT 1215 HRS HE OBSERVED A MAN LYING ON THE GROUND APPROXIMATELY 50 METERS FROM THE CAMPUS.

- RSO SPOKE WITH INDIVIDUALS IN THE AREA WHO RECOUNTED THAT AN UNIDENTIFIED CAR HAD PASSED SOME TUTSI STUDENTS AND SEVERAL SHOTS WERE FIRED FROM THE VEHICLE INJURING ONE STUDENT. HIS

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FRIENDS TOOK THE VICTIM TO THE HOSPITAL WHILE OTHER STUDENTS DECIDED TO KILL THE FIRST HUTU THEY SAW. LATER THAT DAY A HUTU MAN PASSED THE CAMPUS CARRYING A BAG OF CHARCOAL AND THE STUDENTS BEAT HIM TO DEATH.

3/21, PRESIDENT CYPRIEN NTARYAMIRA MET WITH MILITARY AND CIVILIAN SECURITY OFFICIALS REGARDING THE RESTORATION OF ORDER AFTER A WEEK OF RANDOM GUNFIRE AND ARSON IN SEVERAL OF THE CITY'S QUARTIERS. AUTHORIZATION WAS GIVEN TO DEPLOY THE ARMY IN BUJUMBURA AND TO DISARM ARMED CIVILIANS. TROOPS FROM 1ST PARA BN AND 2ND COMMANDO BN AUGMENTED THE GENDARMERIE IN THIS GOVERNMENT SANCTIONED EFFORT. DESPITE THE HEIGHTENED TROOP PRESENCE, MOST OF BUJUMBURA'S INHABITANTS CONTINUED TO GO ABOUT THEIR BUSINESS. THE MAJORITY OF THE TROOPS WERE DEPLOYED IN KAMENGE QUARTIER.

3/22, ALTHOUGH THERE WERE UNCONFIRMED RUMORS OF MORE THAN ONE THOUSAND DEATHS IN BUJUMBURA A MORE ACCURATE TOTAL WAS LESS THAN ONE HUNDRED. RSO WAS IN THE MOST AFFECTED AREA AND WAS ABLE TO CONFIRM THE DEATHS OF 56. SOME OF THE MOST ERRONEOUS REPORTING CAME FROM BURUNDI'S EMBASSY IN NEIGHBORING RWANDA WHICH SAID THAT "THOUSANDS" OF DEAD BODIES WERE LYING IN THE STREETS OF BUJUMBURA.

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3/22, TWO MEN WERE BEATEN TO DEATH IN KAMENGE BY ZAIRIAN RESIDENTS AFTER THEY HAD BEEN OBSERVED CARRYING WEAPONS AND THREATENING THE LOCAL INHABITANTS. SEVERAL INDIVIDUALS WERE REPORTEDLY TAKEN INTO CUSTODY.

3/23, A SECTION OF NGAGARA QUARTIER WAS ATTACKED BY YOUNG HUTUS FROM KAMENGE WHO THREW STONES AT HOUSE BEFORE BEING

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DRIVEN OFF BY LOCAL CITIZENS AND THE MILITARY.

3/24, RUMORS OF A COUP CIRCULATED THROUGH THE CITY BUT CYRIAQUE SIMBIZI, THE GOVERNMENT'S SPOKESMAN CALLED THE RUMORS A "BASELESS LIE."

3/23, SPOARDIC GUNFIRE COULD STILL BE HEARD IN THE QUARTIERS OF KAMENGE, KINAMA, AND CIBITOKÉ.

- THE MONTH OF APRIL STARTED OUT QUIETLY ENOUGH UNTIL POST OFFICIALS RECEIVED WORD DURING THE EVENING OF APRIL 6 THAT A

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PLANE CARRYING THE PRESIDENTS OF BURUNDI AND RWANDA HAD CRASHED MYSTERIOUSLY JUST MINUTES SHORT OF ITS FINAL APPROACH. RSO, CHARGE AND PAO BEGAN CALLING KEY CONTACTS IN AN EFFORT TO CONFIRM RUMORS CONCERNING THE CRASH.

4/7, POST'S EAC DISCUSSED THE SITUATION IN KIGALI AND THE POSSIBILITY OF A SPILLOVER INTO BURUNDI. EAC DECIDED TO REQUEST THAT POST BE PLACED ON AUTHORIZED DEPARTURE STATUS.

4/7, RSO CONTACTED AMBASSADOR RAWSON IN KIGALI AND DISCUSSED THE DETERIORATING SECURITY SITUATION. RSO PROPOSED AN
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OVERLAND EVAC OPTION GIVEN THE HOSTILITIES IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO KIGALI'S AIRPORT. CONTACT WAS ALSO MADE WITH THE VISITING DEFENSE ATTACHE IN KIGALI. THE TWO DAYS THAT FOLLOWED WERE SPENT COORDINATING THE OVERLAND EVACUATION EFFORT. REMARKABLY THE PEOPLE OF BURUNDI DID NOT REACT VIOLENTLY TO THE LOSS OF THEIR PRESIDENT. BURUNDI GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY LEADERS WERE IN CONSTANT CONTACT AND AND THEY ADVISED THE PUBLIC TO REMAIN CALM AFTER THE ACCIDENT THAT HAD CLAIMED THE LIFE OF THE PRESIDENT.

4/8, EMBASSIES BUJUMBURA AND KIGALI WERE PLACED ON ORDERED DEPARTURE STATUS. (SEE ALSO STATE 092162)

4/9, POST REDUCED ITS CLASSIFIED HOLDINGS TO ONE HOUR.

4/9, RSO WENT TO THE AIRFIELD IN THE MORNING AND COORDINATED THE ARRIVAL OF 300 US MARINES FROM THE 11TH MEU (SOC) BASED ON THE USS PELILIEU STATIONED OFF THE COAST OF KENYA AND ARRANGED FOR LANDING CLEARANCE FOR 4 KC-130'S, 3 CH-53 AIR REFUELABLE HELO'S, AND 2 C-141'S. ALL AIRCRAFT AND MARINES WERE ON THE GROUND BY MID-DAY.

- SHORTLY AFTER THE ARRIVAL OF THE MARINES RSO DROVE TO THE RWANDAN FRONTIER TO AWAIT ARRIVAL OF THE FIRST OVERLAND CONVOY OF EVACUEES FROM KIGALI. WHEN RSO WAS ADVISED THAT THE FRONTIER WOULD CLOSE AT 1800 HRS HE CROSSED INTO RWANDA IN SEARCH OF TWO OTHER CONVOYS ALSO ENROUTE. HE MET CONVOYS 2 AND 3 ABOUT 10 MILES FROM THE BORDER AND ADVISED THEM THAT EMBASSY OFFICERS WERE WAITING FOR THEM AT THE FRONTIER TO ASSIST WITH BORDER FORMALITIES. RSO WENT ON TO BUTARE TO USE THE ONLY AVAILBALE PHONE TO CONTACT EMBASSY BUJUMBURA AND ADVISE THAT ALL AMCITS IN THE FIRST 3 CONVOYS HAD BEEN

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ACCOUNTED FOR. RSO SPENT THE NIGHT IN BUTARE, RWANDA.

4/10, AT 0600 HRS, RSO ARRIVED AT THE FRONTIER AND TOLD BORDER OFFICIALS TO ANTICIPATE THE ARRIVAL OF SEVERAL LARGE CONVOYS LATER THAT DAY. THEIR COOPERATION WAS EXCELLENT. RSO RETURNED TO BUJUMBURA AND DISCUSSED DEVELOPMENTS WITH POST OFFICERS. WHEN POST'S COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER CONFIRMED THAT AMBASSADOR RAWSON AND THE REMAINING AMERICANS WERE PREPARING TO DEPART KIGALI RSO RETURNED TO THE BORDER WITH OTHER EMBASSY OFFICERS. RSO CROSSED THE BORDER, WENT INTO BUTARE AND DISCUSSED SECURITY MATTERS WITH MEMBERS OF THE U.N. CONTINGENT, AND THEN CONTINUED NORTH TO MEET THE LAST CONVOY.

- THE FINAL CONVOY STRETCHED OUT MORE THAN A MILE, CONTAINED 120 PLUS VEHICLES, AND INCLUDED CITIZENS OF AT LEAST 15 OTHER COUNTRIES. EMBASSY BUJUMBURA PERSONNEL TURNED THIS POTENTIAL LOGISTICAL IMMIGRATION PROBLEM INTO A SMOOTH OPERATION IN SPITE OF THE LARGE NUMBER OF EVACUEES.

- THE CONVOY DEPARTED THE BORDER AT 2000 HRS AND ARRIVED SAFELY IN BUJUMBURA JUST AFTER 2300 HRS. THE OVERLAND EVAC WAS A COMPLETE SUCCESS AND NO ONE WAS INJURED DURING THE ORDEAL.

- THE DEPARTURE OF EMBASSY KIGALI'S EVACUEES VIA AIR FROM BUJUMBURA CONTINUED UNTIL THE LAST C-141 FLIGHT DEPARTED AT 1330 HRS ON APRIL 12. OPERATION "DISTANT RUNNER" WAS OVER.

4/14, THE LAST FRENCH TROOPS DEPARTED KIGALI, ENDING OPERATION "AMARYLLIA". (SEE ALSO USDAO PARIS 010380)
RWANDA

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4/16, RSO AND CHARGE ATTENDED THE STATE FUNERAL FOR THE LATE PRESIDENT OF BURUNDI. THE EVENT WENT SMOOTHLY AND THERE WERE NO SECURITY PROBLEMS RELATED TO THE FUNERAL.

4/18, TWO GRENADES WERE REPORTED TO HAVE EXPLODED IN BWIZA QUARTIER DURING THE EVENING OF 4/17. RSO'S GENDARME CONTACTS HAD NO INFORMATION REGARDING ANY INJURIES.

4/18, ONE GRENADE EXPLODED IN NYAKABIGA, TWO WENT OFF IN JABE,

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AND TWO MORE ALSO DETONATED IN BWIZA; THESE ARE ALL IN

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E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: MARCH/APRIL MSR

SECTIONS OF THE CITY WHERE NO/NO EXPATS RESIDE. THERE WAS NO
INFORMATION CONCERNING INJURIES. THE GENDARMERIE REPORTED
THAT YOUNG MILITANTS LIVING IN KAMENGE HAD DUG DITCHES IN MANY
OF THE ROADS TO PREVENT THE MILITARY AND GENDARMES FROM
CONDUCTING PATROLS.

4/20, BUJUMBURA'S CHIEF ATTORNEY WAS KILLED WHEN HIS CAR WAS
STOPPED DURING A WEAPONS SEARCH IN KAMENGE. ANOTHER OCCUPANT
IN THE CAR STARTED TO SHOOT AT GENDARMES WHO RESPONDED AND THE
ATTORNEY WAS KILLED IN THE CROSSFIRE.

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4/21, SPORADIC GUNFIRE WAS HEARD DURING THE EVENING HOURS IN
CIBITOKI, KINAMA, AND THE KAMENGE SECTIONS OF THE CITY.

4/20, EUCOM'S CONTINGENCY ASSESSMENT TEAM ARRIVED IN
BUJUMBURA. RSO WAS POINT OF CONTACT FOR THE VISIT AND
PROVIDED SUPPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE TEAM. RSO'S SELECTED

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HLZ'S WERE RE-VALIDATED AND THE TEAM LEFT FOR GERMANY ON 4/23.

4/22, RSO AND SOCEUR REP MET WITH GERMAN AMBASSADOR TO DISCUSS CONTINGENCY PLANNING.

4/22, AT 1430 HRS POST'S EAC MET TO DISCUSS CHARGE'S EARLIER DISCUSSION WITH UNSGSR ABDALLAH. EAC MEMBERS UNANIMOUSLY AGREED TO USE THE WARDEN SYSTEM ADVISING ALL AMCITS TO CONTINUE EXERCISING EXTREME CAUTION DURING THIS TIME.

4/23, THE GRB ISSUED A 48 HOUR ULTIMATUM TO ALL CIVILIANS CARRYING FIREARMS TO SURRENDER THEM TO ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIALS IN THEIR RESPECTIVE AREAS BEFORE 1800 HRS, ON 24 APRIL.

4/24, A GRB HELICOPTER CRASHED IN MABAYI, NORTH OF BUJUMBURA AND NOT FAR FROM THE RWANDAN BORDER. LATER THAT EVENING RSO SPOKE WITH A GRB PILOT WHO SAID THAT THE AIRCRAFT, AN ALOUETTE III, HAD SUSTAINED A CATASTROPHIC ENGINE FAILURE. THE CRASH RESULTED IN THE DEATH OF THE PILOT, SEVERE INJURIES TO THE CO-PILOT, AND UNSPECIFIED INJURIES TO THE FIVE SOLDIERS ALSO ON BOARD.

4/24, POST OFFICIALS WERE ADVISED OF A POSSIBLE COUP ATTEMPT IN PROGRESS. EARLY MONDAY MORNING, NINE LOW RANKING OFFICERS LEFT THE BARRACKS OF THE 1ST PARA BN AND WENT TO OTHER BASES

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TO RALLY SUPPORT. FOUR OFFICERS AND TWO OR THREE ENLISTED PERSONNEL WERE ARRESTED WHILE FOUR OTHER SOLDIERS REPORTEDLY FLED.

4/24, TWO SOLDIERS WERE WOUNDED IN KARUZI PROVINCE AFTER BEING ATTACKED BY UNKNOWN ASSAILANTS. THEY WERE PART OF A DETACHMENT STATIONED IN GIHOGAZI.

4/25, AT 0330 HRS, RSO MET WITH CHARGE AT THE EMBASSY TO DISCUSS THE CONTINUING RUMORS OF A COUP ATTEMPT.

4/25, RSO VISITED NGAGARA QUARTIER AND VISITED A RESIDENCE WHICH HAD BEEN STRUCK BY A ROCKET. NO ONE WAS INJURED, THE ROOF WAS DAMAGED AND CONSISTENT WITH A SPENT RPG-7 ROUND.

4/28, RSO MET WITH THE AUSTRIAN CONSUL RESIDENT IN NAIROBI WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR BURUNDI. CONTINGENCY PLANNING FOR EVACUATION OF FOREIGN NATIONALS WAS DISCUSSED. ALSO PRESENT WERE REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE BELGIAN EMBASSY AND GERMANY'S

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GTZ (A FEDERAL COOPERATION ORGANIZATION).

B. COVERAGE OF CONSTITUENT POST - KIGALI

RSO DROVE TO KIGALI ON MARCH 1 AND RETURNED TO BUJUMBURA ON MARCH 5. HE ATTENDED POST'S EAC MEETING ON 3/4 WHICH DISCUSSED TRIPWIRES ULTIMATELY USED FOR EVAC PLANNING ON 4/7.

3/10, AT APPROXIMATELY 1140 HRS, A BELGIAN ALOUETTE HELICOPTER FLYING FOR UNAMIR FORCES FLEW INTO A HIGH TENSION WIRE AND CRASHED 10 KM OUTSIDE OF KIGALI. ONLY MINOR INJURIES WERE

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REPORTED. (SEE ALSO KIGALI 001078)

3/13, THE FORMER PRIME MINISTER OF RWANDA WAS THE TARGET OF A GRENADE ATTACK ON HIS RESIDENCE. NO ONE WAS INJURED IN THE ENSUING EXPLOSION BUT THE TWO ASSAILANTS, REPORTEDLY DRESSED IN MILITARY UNIFORMS, MADE OFF WITH SOME OF THE INTENDED VICTIMS PERSONAL PROPERTY. (SEE ALSO KIGALI 001081)

3/16, A VEHICLE WITH OFFICIAL BURUNDI LICENSE PLATES WAS INVOLVED IN AN ACCIDENT INSIDE KIGALI CITY LIMITS. THE CAR WAS

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CONTAINED GRENADES AND RIFLES. THE DRIVER WAS DETAINED BY THE GENDARMERIE. (SEE ALSO KIGALI 00148)
4/6, AT APPROXIMATELY 2030 HRS, PRESIDENT JUVENAL HABARIYMANA'S PLANE WAS SHOT DOWN ONLY MINUTES BEFORE ARRIVAL AT KIGALI'S AIRPORT.

4/9, OVERLAND OF OFFICIAL AMCITS AND OTHER NATIONALITIES FROM KIGALI TO BUJUMBURA BEGAN.

4/10, 2315 HRS, OVERLAND EVAC OF ALL OFFICIAL AMCITS FROM KIGALI WHICH INCLUDED OTHER NATIONALITIES WAS TERMINATED.

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4/21, RPF FORCES WERE REPORTED TO HAVE CAPTURED THE TOWN OF BYUMBA, LESS THAN TWENTY MILES FROM KIGALI.

4/23, 170 PATIENTS AT A HOSPITAL IN BUTARE, JUST 20 MILES FROM THE BURUNDI FRONTIER, WERE SLAUGHTERED BY MEMBERS OF THE RWANDAN ARMY'S PRESIDENTIAL GUARD.

C. MSG ACTIVITIES

THE FOLLOWING DRILLS WERE CONDUCTED DURING THE MONTH OF MARCH:

3/11, INTERNAL DEFENSE DRILL.
3/12, INTRUDER DRILL.
3/17, INTRUDER DRILL.
3/18, BOMB DRILL.
3/21, INTRUDER DRILL.
3/29, INTRUDER DRILL.

3/10, OUTGOING DET COMDR MSGT THOMPSON AND FAMILY LEFT BUJUMBURA ENROUTE TO HIS NEW POST AS CHIEF INSTRUCTOR AT MSG BN.

3/24, GYSGT THRASHER AND SPOUSE ARRIVED AT POST.

APRIL:

4/4, MOB/INTERNAL DEFENSE DRILL.
4/16, BOMB DRILL.
4/24, MOB/INTERNAL DEFENSE DRILL.

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4/22, CPT MCGEE, EXECUTIVE OFFICER, FROM CO. "F" IN NAIROBI
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ARRIVED TO CONDUCT A SEMI-ANNUAL INSPECTION OF THE MARINE
DETACHMENT. THE DET. WAS RATED FULLY MISSION CAPABLE.
CPT MCGEE RETURNED TO NAIROBI ON 4/26.
II. THREATS AND INCIDENTS

A. PREVIOUSLY REPORTED

3/28, ROBBERY - AT APPROXIMATELY 1330 HRS, A TDY USAID
EMPLOYEE WAS MUGGED WHILE WALKING BACK TO HIS OFFICE AFTER
LUNCH. HE TOLD RSO THAT HE WAS ACCOSTED BY 7 YOUTHS ONE OF
WHICH PRESSED A KNIFE TO HIS SIDE DEMANDING HIS VALUABLES. HE
WAS RELIEVED OF MORE THAN 3,300 DOLLARS WORTH OF JEWELRY BUT
THE VICTIM WAS NOT INJURED. GENDARMERIE WERE INFORMED OF THE
INCIDENT. (SEE ALSO BUJUMBURA 1148)

4/4, HARASSMENT - AT APPROXIMATELY 1530 HRS, RSO WAS CONTACTED
BY AN AMERICAN FEMALE, FULBRIGHT FELLOW, RESIDING IN
BUJUMBURA. SHE SAID THAT A LOCAL MALE HAD COME BY HER GATE
AND THAT AFTER A BRIEF CONVERSATION PRODUCED WHAT APPEARED TO
BE A GRENADE. HE DEMANDED THAT SHE GIVE HIM HER BICYCLE. SHE
REFUSED, PROMPTLY CLOSED THE GATE, AND THE INDIVIDUAL WALKED
AWAY BUT NOT BEFORE THREATENING TO RETURN THAT EVENING. A
REPORT WAS FILED WITH THE GENDARMERIE WHO SENT ADDITIONAL
PERSONNEL INTO THE AREA. (SEE ALSO BUJUMBURA 1149)

B. NOT PREVIOUSLY REPORTED - NONE

III. SECURITY VIOLATIONS

MARCH - 3

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APRIL - 1

IV. DS INITIATED INVESTIGATIONS

MARCH

(09) BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS ON HAND
(00) BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS RECEIVED

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(00) BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS COMPLETED
(00) BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS OVERDUE
(09) BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS AT END OF MONTH

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APRIL

(09) BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS ON HAND
(04) BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS RECEIVED
(00) BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS COMPLETED
(00) BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS OVERDUE
(13) BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS AT END OF MONTH

V. ACTION CABLES NOT ANSWERED BY DS DURING THE MONTH - NONE

VI. PLANS FOR THE COMING MONTH

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RSO WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR THE SECURITY SITUATION IN
BUJUMBURA.
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